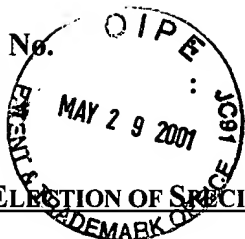


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09/579,704
August 24, 1999

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THE ELECTION OF SPECIES I

TO 3600 MAIL ROOM

Applicant hereby elects Species I, which comprises Figures 1-7 and 10. Applicant submits that Claims 1-11, 13-32 and 38-40 are generic. Claim 11 is directed to Species I while Claim 12 is directed to Species II.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Applicant has made an amendment to the specification to correct an obvious typographical error. The text that has been removed was unintentionally included and relates to an unrelated application. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to the requested election of species in the case. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's attorney, Robert J. Roby at (949) 721-6359 (direct line) in order to resolve such issue promptly.

Respectfully submitted,

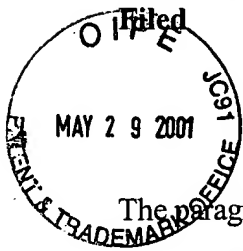
KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: May 24, 2001

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Appl. No. : 09/379,704
Filed : August 24, 1999



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TO 3600 MAIL ROOM

VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE

The paragraph beginning on page 15, line 3, has been amended as follows:

Although the present invention has been described in terms of [a] certain embodiments, other embodiments apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art also are within the scope of this invention. Thus, various changes and modifications may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. For instance, various components may be repositioned as desired.

[Also, some of the components may be formed in the leash housing itself, such as the bag carrier, and bosses may be formed in the housing for rings and the like.] Moreover, not all of the features, aspects and advantages are necessarily required to practice the present invention.

Accordingly, the scope of the present invention is intended to be defined only by the claims that follow.

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